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HEAVY TROOP MOVEMENT, LONG ARTILERY TRAINS

Believed the Expected Offensive by the Germans on Western Front Is About to Begin. Heavy Movements of Troops and Artillery Going Forward. War is Active in Galicia and Austrians on the Defensive. Detailed Report of the Capture of Erzerum by the Russians—British Steamer Ashore on East African Coast. Capture of German African Colony Was Reported.

[By Associated Press.]
London, Feb. 19.—Indications that some important military movement by the Germans may be in preparation on the western front are furnished by advices from the Belgian frontier, received in Amsterdam. Heavy troop movements have been in progress in South and Central Belgium and long trains carrying artillery and infantry are being sent.

There is greater military activity in Galicia than for some days past. Petrograd says the Austrians are on the defensive at the Dniester River. The complete conquest of Kamerun, a German-African colony, was officially announced today.

The German official statement says the British made a fruitless attack south of Ypres, where the Germans recently captured several hundred yards of trenches.

Details of Erzerum Capture.

[By Associated Press.]
Petrograd, Feb. 19.—The first detailed story of the capture of Erzerum by the Russians reached here today. The campaign began to reach a climax last January, with a concentrated movement of the Russians on two of the most important outer forts, which both capitulated on Jan. 29. This left a breach in the defenses and opened a direct passage to the city from the northeast. The Russians stormed the whole front on Feb. 8, continuing until the city was taken.

British Steamer Ashore.

[By Associated Press.]
London, Feb. 19.—The British steamer Comrie Castle, 5,090 tons, is ashore off British East Africa. The passengers were landed.

BEARS RESPONSIBLE FOR LOW PRICES

[By Associated Press.]
Washington, Feb. 19.—Representative Hellen of Alabama told Attorney General Gregory today he believed a combination of bear operators in New York were responsible for the low price of cotton.

CASE HALTED BY ILLNESS OF JUDGE

[By Associated Press.]
Dallas, Tex., Feb. 19.—Proceedings in the Texas Pacific receivership case was halted for the second time today on account of the illness of Judge Weeks. The hearing will be resumed Monday.

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PHONE
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HARVESTER COMPANY MAKES DENIAL

Making No Efforts to Create Monopoly in Control of Sisal Supply.

[By Associated Press.]
Washington, Feb. 19.—The International Harvester Company denies the charges made before the senate agricultural committee today that it combined to monopolize the sisal output and prevent independent twine dealers from obtaining raw material. The company also denied that the Pan-American commission corporation financed a sisal monopoly with the idea of raising the price.

MUNITION FACTORY DESTROYED BY FIRE

Building at Plant of Federal Dye and Chemical Company at Kingsport, Tenn., Destroyed.

[By Associated Press.]
Bristol, Va., Feb. 19.—One building at the plant of the new Federal Dye and Chemical Company at Kingsport, Tenn., was destroyed by fire last night, according to messages received here this morning. The building is isolated and the remainder of the plant is not endangered. The company was engaged in making munitions.

MOTHER AND TWO DAUGHTERS BURNED

[By Associated Press.]
Kewanee, Ill., Feb. 19.—Mrs. Veronica Polski locked herself and two daughters in a room this morning and set fire to their clothing. All were burned to death. She was temporarily insane.

BIG LOAD OF FISH.

A wagon load of fish was on the streets this morning that attracted considerable attention. The fish were caught out of the Navasota River, twenty miles from Bryan, and were of the Buffalo species. The load weighed 500 pounds and ranged in weight from four to thirty-five pounds each and found a ready sale.

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DECLINING BIRTHS ALARMS GERMANS

Government Conferring With Specialists in Effort to Remedy Condition.

[By Associated Press.]
Berlin, Feb. 19.—The declining birth rate in Germany is receiving serious consideration in view of the sustained in the field. This was brought up Friday in the committee of the Prussian diet. A representative of the ministry predicted that unless a radical change should be made, Germany would soon be in the position of France with deaths exceeding births. The speaker also referred to the high rate of infant mortality. He also said one of the gravest hindrances to the growth of the population was the increase in the number of premature births caused deliberately, an evil not confined to the poorer classes.

The minister of education said he recognized the seriousness of the situation and that the government was conferring with specialists in an effort to devise ways of remedying the evil.

W. NORWOOD WAS RELEASED ON BOND

[By Associated Press.]
Anson, Tex., Feb. 19.—Wiley Norwood, charged with killing L. H. Becker on the former's farm Thursday, was released on \$7,500 bond today.

JAPS BUSY IN PHILIPPINES.

Negotiating for \$1,000,000 Lumber Plant, Got Sugar Property.

[By Associated Press.]
Manila, Feb. 19.—Japanese interests are negotiating for the purchase from an American lumber company of its mills and business in the Philippine islands for \$1,000,000.

Increased activity has been manifested by Japanese capitalists in bidding for insular properties. They recently purchased a sugar-producing property, formerly belonging to the Dominican Monks at Calamba, island of Luzon, and they are at present considering the purchase of several large sugar plantations with mills and equipment.

ROYAL ARCH MASONS NOTICE.

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